

Filed for intro on 03/11/98

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 516  
By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the *Cookeville Herald-Citizen* for 96 years of service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those institutions who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, the *Cookeville Herald-Citizen*, is one such institution having provided the Cookeville community for 96 years with news of the Cookeville and Putnam County areas; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 1903, a newspaper was born, the Putnam County Herald newspapers as it was known was first printed on a hand-operated, flat-bed press mounted on a table, purchased from the army for \$30 on beds of raised metal or wooden types; and

WHEREAS, the late Elmer Lincoln Wirt, editor and publisher of the *Herald* is also credited with establishing the Tennessee Polytechnic Institute, which later became the Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, in 1969 the *Herald* and the *Citizen* became the *Herald-Citizen* under the leadership of Harold E. Martin, owner of both the Citizen and the Herald; and

WHEREAS, the Herald-Citizen has won many Tennessee Press Association awards for news coverage, photos, editorials, and advertising; 13 School Bells from the Tennessee Education Association for news and editorials on education; news awards from the Associated Press, and awards from the Tennessee School Boards Association; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Shuster, the publisher of the Herald-Citizen, and owner, Jack Wirt, the grandson of Elmer Wirt, have dedicated themselves to providing the people of the area with the most up-to-date news coverage, presented in an objective and professional manner; and

WHEREAS, the paper has 45 full-time and 25 part-time employees along with 57 carriers who cover 78 motor routes, driving a total of 1,300 miles daily and 4,200 miles every Wednesday with *Plus*, a weekly-free “shopper” distributing “advertising news” to persons in Putnam and most of White, Overton, and Jackson counties; and

WHEREAS, newspapers such as this play an important role helping citizens stay informed about critical news and issues that affect their communities, and are specially deserving of this commendation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and recognize Jack Wirt, Bill Shuster, and everyone affiliated with the *Cookeville Herald-Citizen* on the celebration that fine newspaper's 96<sup>th</sup> year of publication and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.